

FLOOD SUFFERERS.

An Appeal for Aid Sent to Washington from Pembina, N. D.

SITUATION ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI.

Fifteen Thousand People Said to Be Needing Assistance—The Red and Tensas Rivers Swelling—People Drowning Near Natchez, Miss.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Secretary Alger was yesterday handed the following telegram by its recipient:

Hon. H. C. Hansborough, Washington: PEMBINA, N. D., April 19.—The storm of yesterday, in connection with the flood, has left over 200 people destitute along Red river in this county. Aid is needed at once. Can anything be done? Local committee is unable to render sufficient aid. JUDSON LAMORE.

This news came as a surprise to the war department officials. The officer who had been sent to the Red river country has returned, reporting that there was no call for government aid. As the department had no agent in that section it will communicate directly with the mayor of Pembina and probably authorize him to extend aid to the destitute. The following report came yesterday from the inspecting officer at New Orleans:

I have had interviews with parties, represented to me as responsible, who report that 372 persons, including men, women and children, are destitute from the overflow in the vicinity of Natchez, on the left bank below the organized levee district, and have practically been in that condition for several weeks. It is recommended that rations be shipped to them for three weeks.

The department has already adopted this suggestion.

SITUATION ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI.

Vicksburg, Miss., April 21.—Thanks to the prompt measures taken by Maj. Willard, United States engineer, in dispatching the steamer Vidette with skiffs to the country back of Coon's landing, it is believed that all persons in danger will be relieved in time. The Lorence, returning from there yesterday morning, reported no cases of drowning in the backcountry, though there is unquestionably great danger, and the loss of stock is believed to be heavy. The work of relief is proceeding here under difficulties, the applicants being so numerous that it is a task to systematize the matter. It is really impossible to say how many persons are in need, since, in addition to the large number of fugitives from the delta and from north Louisiana, the lowland of this country, is very large, and just now practically helpless, but is estimated to run as high as 15,000. That all available resources will be severely strained to care for them is quite evident. Private contributions are still coming in.

THE RED AND TENSAS RIVERS SWELLING.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 21.—The river at Vicksburg, Helena, Natchez and all along from St. Joseph, La., to Bayou Sara, La., is reported either stationary or falling. This condition is the result of the vast amount of water passing through the crevasses at Biggs' and Reid's levees above Natchez and at Hancock's below. The Red and Tensas rivers are now swelling and almost running over their banks, and by today they will begin spreading over a section of 30 miles to the interior. Refugees continue to flock into the principal towns of the Mississippi and deltas, and the relief committees are taxed to their utmost to provide for the wants of the destitute. At Memphis the river continues to fall. Reports from Greenville, Rosedale and Cairo state that an encouraging decline is noted.

PEOPLE DROWNING NEAR NATCHEZ.

NATCHEZ, Miss., April 21.—A terrible tale of woe comes from Bayou Videt, in the lower portion of Madison parish. The water from the Biggs crevasse caught the people unprepared and unaware of the danger. Word was sent out from that locality requesting that boats be sent there at once, as the people were drowning. How many were actually drowned is unknown, but Thomas Blackman, his wife and infant are known to have been drowned, and Mr. T. P. Kells came near losing his life in attempting to save them. It is believed others have perished. Boats have been sent to the fated locality.

WILL RETAIN JORDAN.

Treasurer Gage Will Keep Cleveland's Appointment in an Important Position.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—From apparently reliable information it is now inferred that Mr. Jordan, in charge of the sub-treasury at New York, may be retained in office by the president, and Senator Platt's man, Ellis H. Roberts, who has been a candidate for the place, made United States treasurer in Washington, to succeed Mr. Morgan. Mr. Gage visited the white house to inform the president that the business men and bankers generally of New York had made such requests for continuing Mr. Jordan in office that he felt constrained to consider them. Mr. Jordan was United States treasurer in the first Cleveland administration. He was made assistant treasurer by President Cleveland in his second administration.

"Cherokee Bill's" Death Avenged.

FORT GIBSON, L. T., April 21.—Like Rogers, the man who captured Crawford Goldsby, alias "Cherokee Bill," arrived here on a train this morning and had just alighted on the platform when he was shot by Clarence Goldsby, a brother of the desperado, in the presence of not less than 200 persons.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS.

Condensed Proceedings of the Senate and House in Extra Session.

In the senate on the 14th Senator Vest (Mo.) spoke on his resolution declaring that the secretary of the treasury had no authority for instructing customs collectors to withhold duties on goods imported after April 1. Senator Morrill (Vt.) afterwards moved that the resolution be referred to the finance committee and the motion was agreed to by a vote of 24 to 23. The Indian appropriation bill was then taken up and Senator Gorman (Md.) spoke against passing it before it had gone to a committee, who might materially reduce the appropriations. In the house Mr. Shannon (N. Y.) introduced a bill to amend the anti-trust law so that it will not prevent railroad traffic agreements. Mr. Ridgely (Kan.) introduced a bill "to enable the unemployed to earn a living, to utilize industry and produce general prosperity." It authorizes each state, county, city, township or school district to raise money by issuing bonds for public works. On motion the house adjourned until the 17th.

The senate on the 15th considered the Indian appropriation bill, but did not complete it. The amendment opening the Uncolpahge Indian reservation in Utah to public entry was agreed to. Senator Vest (Mo.) spoke against the provision of the bill abolishing Indian sectarian schools and said he would infinitely rather see the Indians Catholics than savages. Senator Hansbrough (N. D.) introduced a bill authorizing the appointment of a commission to produce and popularize the bread food of the United States among the peoples of the Orient. After an executive session in which Senator Davis (Minn.) unsuccessfully attempted to secure unanimous agreement for a time to take a vote upon the Anglo-American arbitration treaty as a whole, the senate adjourned until the 16th. The house was not in session. The senate was not in session. In the house Messrs. Bailey, De Armond and several others made statements as to what course the democratic party should pursue with reference to the republican policy of adjourning for three days at a time without attempting to enact legislation, but by a party vote the house upheld the speaker's policy and decided to adjourn until the 21st.

The senate on the 16th passed the Indian appropriation bill. The bill was amended so that if the leaders of the five tribes do not come to terms with the Dawes commission within the next eight months the power of self-government will be taken from them. The senate afterwards agreed to vote on the arbitration treaty on the 5th of May at four p. m. The house was not in session.

TENNESSEE'S EXPOSITION.

The Programme to Be Followed on the Opening of the Centennial at Nashville.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 20.—This is the programme to be followed on the opening day, May 1, of the Centennial exposition. The exercises will be brief and simple. The legislature, Gov. Taylor and his staff and the executive committee of the Centennial company and the supreme court will assemble at the auditorium, where they will be seated on the stage, where the women's board will also have seats. President John W. Thomas will begin the exercises with an address upon the purposes of the centennial. Gov. Taylor will follow, speaking of the importance of the celebration and its meaning. Director-General Lewis will give a brief review of the work accomplished, and with the delivery then of the keys to President Thomas he will declare the Centennial exposition open. At the same time President McKinley, in Washington, will press a button, starting the machinery, and one gun will be fired to announce the event.

FIGHTING SODA FOUNTAINS.

Frances Willard and the Chicago W. C. T. U. Making War on Mixed Drinks.

CHICAGO, April 19.—Frances Willard and the Chicago W. C. T. U. have declared war on soda fountains. Some of the city candy stores patronized almost exclusively by women have on their walls lists of drinks which the W. C. T. U. say are strong enough and varied enough to serve as mixed drinks in any saloon. They claim that there is a good deal in a name in the matter of drinks; that a girl will drink an egg punch, who would avoid a maraschino punch, as if it were a pestilence. And they further fear that the soda fountain is educating in young girls a taste for strong drink which will be the ruin of their maturer years.

ANTI-FUSION POPULISTS.

Middle-of-the-Road Newspaper Men Issue a Call for a Convention at Nashville.

GIRARD, Kan., April 20.—A committee of the National Reform Press association appointed at the Memphis convention February 23, 1897, met here Saturday and issued a call for a national populist convention for the purpose of ousting Marion Butler as chairman of the populist national committee, and formulating plans for the reorganization of the party. The convention is called to meet at Nashville, Tenn., July 4, 1897, and the representation is placed at one delegate for every 2,500 middle-of-the-road populist votes cast at the last election.

DR. HUNTER INDICTED.

The Kentucky Senatorial Aspirant and Others Held for Bribery.

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 19.—The Franklin county grand jury has returned a true bill against Dr. W. Godfrey Hunter, republican nominee for the United States senate; ex-Congressman John Henry Wilson, of the Eleventh district; E. T. Franks, of the Second district; Capt. Noel Gaines and his brother-in-law, Thomas Tanner, of Frankfort, charging them all with conspiracy to bribe.

An Indiana Minister Disappears.

TEKONSHA, Ind., April 20.—Rev. Albert L. Case was called to the bedside of a member of his congregation Tuesday night. He never made the call, but came to Lafayette, hitched his horses in front of a friend's house, where they were afterward found. His wife received a letter saying that he had decided it was better that they live apart, but it is thought the letter is a forgery. He has not been seen since and his wife believes he has been murdered.

MORGAN ON CUBA.

The Senator Urges Speedy Action by This Country.

THE AGRICULTURAL BILL PASSED.

Bankruptcy Bill Laid Before the Senate—Many Reductions Made in the Tariff Bill—The Retroactive Clause Modified.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Senator Morgan's resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba was discussed briefly in the senate yesterday and then went over for a week, owing to the absence of Senator Hale, of Maine, who has been active in opposition. Mr. Morgan again urged the need of speedy action by this country to stay the devastation going on in Cuba. He had just listened, he said, to the testimony of a witness before the committee on foreign relations, which presented a shocking condition of affairs in Pinar del Rio. It was morally impossible that the people of the United States should close their eyes to these horrors much longer. We are, he said, aroused over Greece and Crete and Armenia, but the very stench of these horrors is under our nose. He wanted Americans protected and scenes worse than those in the bloody days of the Netherlands brought to an end. If the senate passed this resolution, as he believed it would, human lives would be saved.

Mr. Mason, of Illinois, offered a resolution directing the committee on rules to report a rule providing for a limitation of debating and for ordering the previous question. The resolution went over.

The agricultural appropriation bill was then taken up and passed without amendment.

At 1:40 p. m. the senate went into executive session. At two o'clock the senate resumed legislative session and the bankruptcy bill was formally laid before the senate. In the course of the debate Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, announced that he would obstruct in every way possible any bill which included involuntary bankruptcy. Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota, amended his substitute bill so as to overcome criticisms heretofore made. Mr. Morgan gave notice that he would seek to secure a test on the pending Nelson substitute by moving at four p. m. to-day to lay the substitute on the table. Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, submitted numerous amendments modifying the stringency of the original bill as applicable to debtors.

A resolution by Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, was agreed to requesting the secretary of state for comprehensive information as to the machinery of government of all foreign nations with which we have diplomatic relations, the taxes or excises and methods of collection, imports and exports, method of aiding merchant marine, discriminations against American merchant vessels, public indebtedness, etc.

Another resolution by Mr. Cullom, of Illinois, requested the secretary of the treasury for information as to the effect of the present internal revenue tax on the honest production of distilled spirits, to what extent illicit distillation had occurred, and all further information that will aid in protecting the government against frauds. In this connection Mr. Cullom stated that he understood one-third of the wines produced in this country came from illicit distillation. The resolution went over after a brief discussion.

Mr. Morgan offered an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill, appropriating \$50,000 to complete the improvement of Pearl harbor, Hawaii.

The Indian appropriation bill will be called up in the house to-day, and a motion will be made either by Sherman, of New York, or Curtis, of Kansas, to disagree with the senate amendments, and to ask for a conference. It is predicted that the house will never agree to the senate provision naming two additional judges for the Indian territory.

REDUCTIONS MADE IN THE TARIFF BILL.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The presence on the floor of the senate yesterday of the members of the republican sub-committee of the senate financial committee, which is engaged in preparing the tariff bill, was made the basis of much speculation. The members of the committee were closeted for a time with Senator Vest, of the democratic side of the finance committee, and afterward had individual conferences with other senators on both sides of the chamber. Members of the committee told their colleagues that many reductions have been made from beginning to end of the bill, because of the belief on the part of the committee that some of the house rates would be prohibitive. They have listened patiently to advocates of increases, but have granted few of the requests. One of the members said yesterday that the bill would be a revenue bill and not a prohibitive bill. The committee practically has agreed upon a modification of the retroactive clause of the Dingley bill, which it is hoped will be satisfactory to the opponents of the house provision.

Cut His Throat.

HIAWATHA, Kan., April 21.—At Leona Sunday night, Earle, the son of Dr. W. W. Scott, in a fit of despondency cut his throat from ear to ear. His recovery is impossible.

MCKINLEY'S CUBAN POLICY.

He Will Pledge the Credit of This Nation to the Insurgents if Spain Will Make Concessions.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Affairs in Cuba, so far as the policy of this administration is concerned, are apparently approaching a crisis. There is no doubt remaining that the purpose of President McKinley is to depend upon Judge Day's personal examination almost exclusively for the determination of the successive steps in the Cuban policy of the administration. Judge Day will go to Havana without any specific instructions, but simply as the confidential adviser of the president, and whatever his advice may be after looking over the ground it is pretty certain to be followed by President McKinley, who has the most unbounded confidence in Judge Day's ability and honesty of purpose. If an opportunity is afforded to open negotiations with the insurgent chiefs on the basis of buying the independence of the island Judge Day will be at liberty to pursue that course. President McKinley stands willing to pledge the credit of the United States in behalf of the insurgents if Spain will voluntarily concede their independence. It is known that the insurgent chiefs are to-day willing to bind themselves as far as they can to pay Spain a reasonable proportion of the expenses of the war on condition of the island being made independent.



JUDGE WILLIAM R. DAY.
(Special Commissioner to Cuba.)

House Democrats Differ.
Tendency of a Number to Rebel Against Bailey's Policy of Acquiescence.
WASHINGTON, April 19.—There is a growing feeling among the democrats of the house against the Bailey policy of acquiescence in adjournment after adjournment pending the senate debate on the tariff bill. At the last democratic caucus this opposition manifested itself in the passage of a resolution protesting against the action of the democrats in voting with the republicans to adjourn. Many of the

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HON. J. W. BAILEY.
[Democratic Leader in the House.]

democratic leaders believe that this policy of Mr. Bailey's, adopted on the ostensible ground that non-legislation by the republicans is better than any legislation, is having a demoralizing effect on the coherence of the democrats as a party. They assert that the minority can only be kept together by a policy of aggressive opposition to the republicans, and that the safe rule to follow in opposing an enemy is to obstruct rather than to fall in with his plans.

FOR FREE COINAGE.

The Knights of Labor Adopt an Amendment to Their Principles.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The Knights of Labor, by a practically unanimous vote, have adopted an amendment to their declaration of principles, favoring free coinage of silver at sixteen to one. When asked about the result of the vote, John W. Hayes, general secretary of the order, said: "Fully 98 per cent. of the ballots cast will be in favor of the free silver amendment. During the last national campaign but two of our assemblies in the United States opposed that plank in the democratic platform. We have a paid-in membership of 125,000. The order is much larger, but the prevailing hard times prevent the payment of dues."

TROUBLE FOR M'NALL.

The Kansas Official Indicted for Alleged Interference with Justice.

GAYLORD, Kan., April 19.—Webb M'Nall, superintendent of insurance, who was at home to spend Sunday, received a telegram from Topeka stating that the federal grand jury had returned an indictment charging him with interfering with the administration of justice by intimidation and threats of prosecution, because of his action in excluding the New York Life, the New York Mutual Life and Connecticut Life insurance companies from Kansas because of unfair dealing in the celebrated Hillmon cases, while the cases are pending in the federal court.

WAR NEWS.

Damasi Captured by the Greeks—Preveza Likely to Fall.

THE GREEK OUTLOOK FAVORABLE.

The Eastern Squadron of the Greek Fleet Planning an Important Movement—The Town of Salonica Likely to Be Shelled.

ATHENS, April 21.—News reached here early this morning that the Greeks, after a desperate battle, have captured and burned Damasi. Vigla is still resisting. Another division of the Greek troops, it is reported, has traversed the Reveni pass and captured three block houses. This division has almost reached Damasi, where it will effect a union with the force that captured the town. The 20,000 troops under Gen. Smolentz displayed the greatest bravery. Reveni lies 13 miles northwest of Larissa. Edhem Pasha, with a force variously estimated at from 10,000 to 14,000 troops, led seven assaults against it Monday, but all were repulsed by the Greeks. Crown Prince Constantine has telegraphed here that the Turks at that point were completely and finally repulsed.

In Athens greater attention has been paid to the operations in the neighborhood of Reveni than to those at Miloussa pass. The theory all along has been that if the Greeks could establish themselves at Damasi their road would lie open to Ellassona. The exact situation at Tyrnavo is somewhat in doubt. The news from that point is conflicting. But there is no confirmation of the rumor that the place has been captured by the Turks. What seems to have happened is that Tyrnavo was evacuated in order to send troops forward to Reveni, and was then reoccupied by troops returning from Miloussa.

The news of the capture of Damasi puts a new complexion upon the situation on the frontier, is a greater encouragement to the government and is likely to have the most exhilarating effect upon the spirits of the Greeks, who had been greatly depressed by the reverses of their troops at Miloussa pass. This success and the fact that the fall of Preveza seems imminent virtually off-sets the calamity of Miloussa. If the Greek divisions effect a union at Damasi, as is expected, there is almost nothing in the way of their prompt advance to Ellassona. If Tyrnavo falls into the hands of Edhem Pasha and the Turkish troops sweep down upon the plain and advance to Larissa to meet the force concentrated there under the crown prince, they will be between two grand divisions of the Greek army. This seems to have been the object of Greek strategy.

Should the Greeks succeed in reducing the forts at Preveza, as now seems probable, and occupy the town with the large land force, co-operating with the bombardment warships, the road to Janina would be open and the Turkish troops in Epirus placed at the most serious disadvantage. The strategic value of Preveza to the Turkish division in Albania is that so long as it remains in the hands of the Turks it makes possible a steady line of munitions and food supplies. With Preveza in the hands of the Greeks this line would be promptly cut, and it would be practically impossible to reinvade the Turkish troops by the long land route through Macedonia. On the other hand, the Greek troops could be reinvaded by sea.

It is stated here in well-informed circles that the eastern squadron of the Greek fleet, which will shortly be reinforced by the ironclad Spetzia, is planning an important movement. This is probably directed against Salonica. If this is made with dispatch, it is quite possible that the Greek ships could reach the gulf and shell the town of Salonica before the Egean squadron of the Turkish fleet could intervene. The object of such bombardment would be to cut off the Macedonian line of supplies to Edhem Pasha's camp at Ellassona. Should the Greek troops advance from Damasi to Ellassona, the line of Turkish supplies could be cut at that point and render the naval movement unnecessary. And it is possible that the brilliant success at Damasi will cause a modification in the sea programme of the Greeks. Taking a general survey of the field the fortunes of war thus far are pretty evenly divided, but the chances for the immediate future are decidedly in favor of the Greeks.

SEVERAL MADE HAPPY.

The President Sends a Number of Names to the Senate—Western Postmasters.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The president has sent to the senate a long list of nominations, among them the following: John A. Merritt, of New York, to be third assistant postmaster-general; Cornelius Van Cott, to be postmaster at New York city; James L. Davenport, of New Hampshire, to be first, and Leverett M. Kelley, of Illinois, to be second deputy commissioner of pensions; William Youngblood, of Alabama, to be auditor of the treasury for the interior department; William H. Nelson, to be postmaster at Smith Center, Kan.; William C. Shannon, to be postmaster at Marshfield, and William F. Flanders at Paris, Mo.